

ABSTRACT

A method for the treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) by administering antisense cAMP response element modulator (antisense CREM) to patients 5 with systemic lupus erythematosus. The antisense CREM increases the production Interleukin-2 (IL-2) which is decreased in SLE patients. Additionally, this invention relates to taking freshly isolated SLE T cells and transfecting them with TCR ζ chain construct in a eukaryotic expression vector, at high efficiency by a recently developed nucleoporation technique for the restoration of TCR/CD3-mediated signaling in the ζ 10 chain transfected cells. Reconstitution of deficient TCR ζ chain can reverse the TCR/CD3-mediated signaling abnormalities as well as the defective IL-2 production in T cells of SLE patients.